

patent application) was described in the CRF as occurring between nucleotides 349 and 374, and occurring again between nucleotides 9434 and 9458. This sequence actually occurs between nucleotides 350 and 374, and occurs again between nucleotides 9435 and 9458.

Second inadvertent discrepancy: The sequence disclosed in the original patent application at Page 15 (5'-gatccGGGACTTTCCGCTGGGGACTTTCCG-3') contains a typographical error at the last nucleotide (at the 3' end) – this nucleotide should have been an A instead of a G. Consequently, the correct sequence is (5'-gatccGGGACTTTCCGCTGGGGACTTTCCA-3'). The source of this nucleotide sequence is [Starcich B, Ratner L, Josephs SF, Okamoto T, Gallo RC, and Staal FW (1985) Characterization of long terminal repeat sequences of HTLV-III. Science 227, 538-540.], which was cited in the original application at Page 15 as being the reference describing this nucleotide sequence. The nucleotide sequence in the cited article is correct and matches the nucleotide sequence stored in the GenBank data base that was listed in the CRF. The sequence disclosed in the original patent application, which was derived from the cited article, contains the inadvertent error in its last nucleotide. The applicant respectfully requests that this error be corrected when the patent is published.

3. Upon careful examination of the original patent application, the applicant identified one additional potential source of discrepancy between the nucleotide sequence disclosed

in the original application at Page 15 and the nucleotide sequence of the gene encoding the NF-kappa B protein submitted by the applicant in the CRF. The nucleotide sequence of the relevant segment of the gene encoding the NF-kappa B protein (disclosed at Page 15 of the original patent application) is typed in capital letters, and the nucleotide sequence of the unrelated 5'-overhang sequence is indicated in lowercase letters. Upon careful consideration, the applicant realizes that in comparing the sequence disclosed at Page 15 to the sequence submitted by the applicant in the CRF, the unrelated nucleotides of the 5'-overhang sequence of the probe (gatcc) might have been inadvertently included in the comparison. The applicant respectfully requests that the examiner consider that the original disclosure referred to the 5'-overhang sequence at Page 15, Page 27, and Page 33 (within the claims) of the original patent application, and in Figure 4J, and that one of skill in the art would readily recognize that the lowercase letters used to designate the 5'-overhang sequence imply that that the portion of the probe sequence that is complementary to the gene encoding the NF-kappa B protein is the portion of the probe sequence indicated in capital letters. Therefore, the applicant respectfully requests that in comparing the probe sequence disclosed at Page 15 of the original patent application to the nucleotide sequence of the gene encoding the NF-kappa B protein submitted by the applicant in the CRF, only that portion of the probe sequence written in capital letters should be used.

4. A new CRF has been submitted with this amendment, in which the relevant segment of the gene encoding the NF-kappa B protein is indicated as being located between nucleotides 350 and 374, and again between nucleotides 9435 and 9458. In addition, a

paper copy of the corrected CRF has been submitted with this amendment.

Applicant certifies that the content of the paper copy and computer readable file are the same, and include no new matter.

A new computer disc and a hard copy containing the sequence information previously submitted are enclosed. Disc information has been provided in MS Word, so that the Accession K03455 and other supporting information can be read.

The Examiner has stated that Claims 3, 4, 9, and 10 are allowable. Claim 11 has been cancelled. The specification has been corrected and now matches the CRF. It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance.

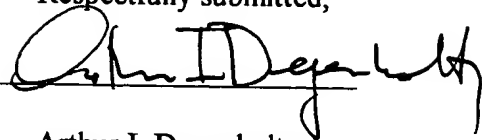
Applicant request that a Notice of Allowance be issued in this application.

A petition and petition fee covering a one month extension in the time to respond to the Office Action dated January 10, 2003 are attached herewith.

Courtesy, cooperation and skill of Primary Examiner Dr. Ethan Whisenant are acknowledged.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



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Dated: April 30, 2003

Attachments:

Petition and fee

CRF and hard copy

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the specification

In the last line on page 15 the nucleotide sequence has been amended as follows:

(5'-gatccGGGACTTTCCGCTGGGGACTTTCCGA-3')

On page 27, in step 63, the nucleotide sequence has been amended as follows:

(5'-gatccGGGACTTTCCGCTGGGGACTTTCCGA-3')

In the Figures

In Fig. 4J in step 63, the nucleotide sequence has been amended as follows:

(5'-gatccGGGACTTTCCGCTGGGGACTTTCCGA-3')